REMARKS

The specification is amended to denote registered trademarks. Claims 1, 14, 16, and 18 are amended to recite that the visualization of resources is computer-generated. See [0011]. Claims 3 and 4 are amended to omit the term "about." Claim 15 is amended to depend from claim 14. No new matter is added.

The claim amendments moot the 35 U.S.C. § 112 rejections.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 14, 16, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application No. 20030025812 to Slatter. "[A] claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). "The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim." *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 2d 1226, 1236, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989). Slatter fails to disclose every element of the independent claims.

Slatter discloses an image processing system providing intelligent feature selection and pan/zoom control in viewing images, such as images from a digital camera. [0001], [0002], Figs. 1-3. The system selects one or more regions of interest within the image as pan/zoom targets. "[T]here is provided an electronic image processing device including an image processor arranged to analyse an image to identify a plurality of regions of interest within the image . . ." [0014]. As Slatter describes with reference to Fig. 1,

> A scene 1 to be captured is focussed by an optical lens system 3 onto a two-dimensional photo-detector array 5. The detector array converts the image falling thereon into an electronic signal 7 that is passed to an image processor 9. The image processor is connected to a display apparatus 11 on which the captured image of scene 1, or part of the image, may be displayed. Also connected to the image processor 9 is an image selector 13. The image selector has two buttons operable by the user to select views of areas or regions of interest within the main image.

[0045]. Slatter thus operates on a photographically captured <u>image</u> – not a computer-generated

visualization of resources – and defines regions of interest of as areas or sub-sets of the image.

This definition is amplified and further explained with reference to Fig. 2,

> FIG. 2 . . . schematically illustrates how <u>areas of interest</u> may be selected.
> The entire image 45 comprises three main figures, namely a person 40, a
> person 41 and a further person 42. The image processor may, after
> analysis of the image, identify the first person 40 as a <u>region of interest</u> and
> calculate an associated target zoom boundary 40'. Similarly the people 41
> and 42 may also be identified as <u>regions of interest</u> and associated target
> zoom boundaries 41' and 42' calculated as shown.

[0046]. Slatter's regions of interest are thus portions of an image, and the pan/zoom operations

selectively display subsets of the image.

In contrast, the claimed invention does not operate on images at all, but rather on a

computer-generated <u>visualization of resources</u>, wherein each resource may have attributes

associated with it. The resources are described at [002]:

> One well-known method of presenting large amounts of data to a user in a
> comprehensible format, particularly where interrelationships between data
> elements or resources convey information, is by a <u>graphic visualization of
> the resources</u> and their interconnection. Examples include geographic and
> topographic maps; electronic, mechanical, or plumbing schematic
> diagrams; tree maps, including tree structures such as software module
> interconnection diagrams; information technology resources such as
> network maps; and the like.

Resources are tangible objects, a graphic visualization of which may be generated by a

computer and presented to a user on a display device.

The visualization is defined at [0030]: "As used herein the term 'visualization' refers to a

virtual graphic representation of a plurality of resources and the interconnections or

interrelationships between the resources." A graphic visualization is thus distinguished from,

and is not anticipated by, a display of a photographic image.

The independent claims recite intelligently zooming in/out such a display of a computer-

generated visualization of resources by inspecting the attributes associated with resources, and

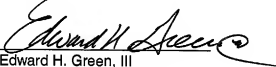computing a future display that includes the largest number of resources having attributes

matching predetermined criteria. Slatter discloses panning and zooming an image to display one or more subsets of the image. Slatter does not disclose displaying a computer-generated visualization of resources wherein the resources have attributes, and does not disclose calculating a future display based on a comparison of the resources' attributes to predetermined criteria. Since Slatter fails to disclose each claimed limitation, the § 102 rejections must be withdrawn. Each dependent claim includes the limitations of its respective parent claim(s); accordingly, the dependent claims also exhibit patentable novelty over Slatter.

Goldberg and Smith fail to cure the deficiency of Slatter to teach or suggest the limitations of claim 1. Accordingly, claims 3, 4, and 10 exhibit patentable non-obviousness over the art of record.

In light of the amendments and remarks herein, prompt allowance of all pending claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

COATS & BENNETT, P.L.L.C.

Dated: May 16, 2007

Edward H. Green, III
Registration No.: 42,604

P.O. Box 5
Raleigh, NC 27602
Telephone: (919) 854-1844
Facsimile: (919) 854-2084